

# THE WEATHER.

Washington, March 25.—Weather for Arkansas: Showers and probably thunderstorms Sunday; Monday fair.

# The Sentinel-Record.

FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT Over Leased Wires. But Two Papers in the State Have This Service. The News While It Is News.

THE SENTINEL-RECORD IS THE ONLY PAPER IN HOT SPRINGS THAT RECEIVES THE FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT OVER LEASED WIRES.

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No. 195.

## 148 EMPLOYEES TRAPPED AND KILLED IN N. Y. FACTORY FIRE

NINE-TENTHS OF THE VICTIMS WERE GIRLS, WHO, PENNED IN WITHOUT HOPE OF RESCUE, EITHER JUMPED TO DEATH OR WERE BURNED IN THE BUILDING.

Death Toll of Nearly 200 Taken in a Brief Space of Twenty Minutes—Bodies of Girls From Ninth and Tenth Stories Break Through the Sidewalks to Vaults Below—Most Sickening Spectacle in the History of New York City.

New York, March 25.—One hundred and fifty persons—nine-tenths of them girls from the East Side—were crushed to death on the pavements, smothered by smoke, or shivered to a crisp this afternoon in the worst fire New York has known since the steamship General Slocum was burned to the water's edge off North Brother's Island in 1904.

One hundred and forty-one bodies had been removed from the ruins at midnight, and seven of the forty injured had died in hospitals. This, it is believed, completes the list of dead, most of whom are unidentified.

Grief crazed relatives besieged the morgue as the bodies were laid out. Nearly all, if not all, of the victims were employed by the Triangle Waist Company on the eighth, ninth and tenth floors of a ten story loft building at No. 23 Washington Place on the western fringe of the downtown wholesale clothing, fur and millinery district. The partners of the firm, Isaac Harris and Max Blanck, escaped unscathed from the office on the tenth floor carried with them over an adjoining roof, Blanck's two young daughters and a governess. There was not an outside fire escape on the building.

How the fire started will perhaps never be known. A corner on the eighth floor was its point of origin, and the three upper floors only were swept. On the ninth floor fifty bodies were found; sixty-three or more persons were crushed to death by jumping, and more than thirty clogged the elevator shafts. The loss to property will not exceed \$100,000.

Pedestrians going home through Washington Place to Washington Square at ten minutes to five, were scattered by the whizz of something rushing through the air before them; there was a horrible thud on the pavement and a body flattened on the flags. Wayfarers on the opposite side of the street shaded their eyes against the setting sun and saw the windows of the three upper floors of the building black with girls crowding to the sills. There were no fire escapes.

"Don't jump; don't jump," yelled the crowd, but the girls had no alternative. The pressure of the mad-dened hundreds behind them and the urging of their own fears were too strong. They began to fall to the sidewalk in a terrible rain of flesh and blood.

Four alarms were rung within 15 minutes. Before the engines could respond, before the net could be stretched, or the ladders raised, five girls had fallen from the eighth and ninth floors so heavily that they broke through the very streets into the vaults below. In an hour the fire was out; in half an hour it had done its worst. Probably the death list was full in twenty minutes.

The building stands on a corner with exposure on two sides, but the only fire escape was in the interior, opening on a light and air shaft. In all there were seven exits—the single fire escape, two freight elevators at the rear, two passenger elevators in front and two stairways. All of them proved almost useless and practically all who escaped, either climbed to the roof and scrambled thence to the roof of the building occupied by the American Book Company adjoining or fled in the first rush for safety before the crush and the smoke grew too thick.

The building stands tonight with shell intact and barely scarred—rather smudged.

The partitions of architectural tiling between floor and floor are sound, and it is impossible for one who did not see it to imagine how the flames, in so short a time, could have wrought such havoc. Seven hundred persons, 500 of them women, were employed by the company. They sat in rows at

their whirling machines, the tables before them piled with flimsy cloth, the floor littered with lint, the air itself full of flying inflammable dust. The first rush of flame was almost an explosion. Operators died in their chairs, their lungs seared by inhaling flame. Others were crowded into the elevator shafts after the cars had made their last trip. Still others were pushed off the inadequate interior fire escape.

In such a horrible stream did the bodies overflow from the windows that the fire nets, stretched by the first company to arrive, were soon gorged beyond capacity.

Twelve bodies weighted one net to the bursting point, but the bodies kept on tumbling to the pavement, through meshes that could no longer support them.

When the first breath of flame curled over the edge of a pile of shirt-irons on the eighth floor, five minutes before quitting time, hundreds were in line before the cashier's window.

In the office buildings across Washington Place, scores of men detained beyond office hours worked at their desks. One of them saw a girl rush to a window and throw up the sash. Behind her danced a seething curtain of yellow flame. She climbed to the sill, stood in black outline against the light, hesitating, then with a last touch of futile thrift, slipped her chateleine bag over her wrist and jumped. Her body went whirling down through the woven wire glass of a canopy to the flagging below. Her sisters who followed flamed through the air like rockets.

It was eighty-five feet from the eighth floor to the ground, about ninety-five feet from the ninth floor, 115 feet from the cornice of the roof and the upward rush of the draught and the crackle of the flames drowned their cries.

Six girls fought their way to a window on the ninth floor over the bodies of fallen fellow workers and crawled out in single file to an eight inch stone ledge running the length of the building. More than a hundred feet above the sidewalk they crept along their perilous pathway to a swinging electric feed wire, spanning Washington Place.

The leaders paused for their companions to catch up at the end of the ledge and the six grabbed the wire simultaneously. It snapped like rotten whip cord and they crashed down to death.

A thirteen-year-old girl hung for three minutes by her finger tips to the sill of a tenth floor window. A tongue of flame licked at her fingers and she dropped into a life net held by the firemen. Two women fell into the net at almost the same moment. The strands parted and the three were added to the death list. A girl threw her pocketbook, then her hat, then her furs from a tenth story window. A moment later her body came whirling after them—to death.

At the ninth floor window a man and a woman appeared. The man embraced the woman and kissed her. Then he hurled her to the street and jumped. Both of them were killed. Five girls smashed a pane of glass, dropped in a struggling tangle and were crushed into a shapeless mass. A girl on the eighth floor leaped for a fireman's ladder, which reached only to the sixth floor. She missed, struck the edge of a life net and was picked up with her back broken. From one window a girl of about 13 years, a woman, a man and two women with their arms about one another threw themselves to the ground in rapid succession. The little girl was whirled to the New York Hospital in an automobile. She screamed as the driver and a policeman lifted her into the hallway. A surgeon came out, gave one look at

her face and touched her wrist. "She is dead," he said.

One girl jumped into a horse blanket held by firemen and policemen. The blanket ripped like cheese cloth and her body was mangled almost beyond recognition. Another dropped into a tarpaulin held by three men. Her weight tore it from their grasp and she struck the street, breaking almost every bone in her body. Almost at the same time a man somersaulted down upon the shoulder of a policeman holding the tarpaulin. He glanced off, struck the sidewalk and was picked up dead.

Within the building a man on the eighth floor stationed himself at the door of one of the elevators and with a club kept back the girls who had stampeded to the wire cage. Thirty were admitted to the car at a time. They rushed down as fast as possible.

The call for ambulances was followed by successive appeals for police until 500 patrolmen arrived to cope with a crowd numbering tens of thousands—a mixture of the morbidly curious and of half crazed relatives and friends of the victims. A hundred mounted policemen had to charge the crowd repeatedly to keep it back.

Led by Fire Chief Croker, a squad of firemen stormed the stairways and gained access to the building at 7 o'clock. Two searchlights from buildings opposite lighted the way of the firefighters as they ascended to top floors. Fifty roasted bodies were found on the ninth floor. They lay in every possible posture, some so charred that recognition was impossible. A half dozen were nude, with the flesh hanging in shreds to the bones.

Women with their hair burned away, with here and there a limb burned entirely off and the charred stump visible, were lifted tenderly from the debris, wrapped in oil cloth and lowered by pulleys to the street. Across the street there rested on the sidewalk a hundred pine coffins, into which were placed the bodies. As fast as this was done the coffins were carried away in any kind of a vehicle that could be pressed into service to the morgue at Bellevue Hospital and to the Charities Pier morgue, opened for the first time since the Slocum horror.

One hundred and six bodies had been taken from the building and twenty injured had been removed to St. Vincent Hospital at 10 o'clock. Of these, bore them down two flights to tance. Others were not expected to live through the night. Three of the five women taken to Bellevue Hospital died soon after admittance there.

On the tenth floor of the building adjoining the burning structure is the law department of New York University. Here twenty odd students were listening to a lecture by Frank H. Sommer, former sheriff of Essex county, New Jersey. He saw the smoke and saw the girls trapped on the roof. He led his class to the roof of the university quarters, where they found two ladders. The boys seized these, bore them down two flights to the roof of an intervening building, swarmed out of the windows and raised them to the roof of the burning structure. Forty girls were brought down to safety.

Hyman Mescher, a cutter, slid down the elevator, cable ten stories and was found alive at the bottom, standing in water up to his arm pits. His hands were lacerated, his forehead was cut, but otherwise he was unhurt.

Just how many trips were made by the elevator men will probably never be known. There are many reports of heroism at the elevators, but it was impossible tonight to learn if the lists were operated to the last possible moment.

City officials announced tonight that the usual rigid investigation which follows disaster will be instituted at once. Chief Croker said:

"This calamity is just what I have been predicting. There were no outside fire escapes on this building. I have been advocating and agitating that fire escapes be put on buildings just such as this. This large loss of life is due to this neglect."

The police say that today's fire is the sixth or seventh in the building within twelve months, all of which

they said occurred in the shirtwaist factory. The others were trifling. The factory is said to be the worst in which operators struck during the widespread shirtwaist strike several months ago.

By today's disaster the total of shirtwaist operators who have perished in New York and vicinity recently is raised to nearly two hundred. Not many weeks ago 25 girls met death under somewhat similar circumstances in Newark, N. J.

Max Blanck, one of the proprietors of the Triangle Waist Company said tonight:

"How or where the fire started I have no idea. There was no explosion, of that I am sure. We who escaped by the roof saw nothing of what happened below us. Probably we were the last persons to get out of the building alive."

"I can't understand how the people on the eighth floor could not have escaped had they not been thrown into a panic. They could have made their way out by the fire escapes in the rear. This means of rescue, however, was cut off from those on the ninth and tenth floors by the flames."

Blanck said he feared that his cousins, Jacob Blanck and Dina Lifshitz, were among the victims of the fire. They were employed on the floors below the office and tonight no word as to their safety had been received.

### DISCUSS TICK PROBLEM.

Live Stock Sanitary Board Talks Precautionary Measures.

Jackson, Miss., March 24.—An executive meeting of the live stock sanitary board called the "tick commission" for the reason that the eradication of the Texas fever or cattle tick, is the most important and most difficult problem confronting the body, was held in the office of the commissioner of agriculture today. There were present Governor Noel, Commissioner Blakeslee, Attorney General Hudson J. M. Aldrich, of Michigan City, and Prof. W. L. Hutchinson, secretary ex-officio. There were a number of routine and executive matters considered, accounts allowed and the work reviewed, all of which showed progress. There was some considerable discussion of the proposition that the board all of from its contingent fund a certain amount to be used in defraying the cost of getting out the department of agriculture bulletin, a most useful publication, formerly gotten out each month, but which had to be discontinued and instead running out the publication bi-monthly, owing to lack of funds. Governor Noel was impressed with the importance of this system, though he had some doubts as to whether it was in accord with the legislative intent.

Commission Blakeslee stated that there could be no doubt of the fact that the bulletin would be continued, even if it is necessary to accept the funding offers of a number of banks and large supply houses throughout the state, who recognize the great utility and benefit accruing to the farmers generally and the amount of practical matter which is compiled within its pages from month to month.

### ORE PLANT BLOWN UP.

Dynamiters Destroy \$200,000 Plant Near Cleveland.

Cleveland, O., March 25.—Unknown vandals tonight dynamited the new iron ore handling plant of the Erie Railroad at North Randall, a suburb of Cleveland. The dynamite was used on the ore bridge of the plant, which was destroyed with an estimated loss of \$200,000.

The plant was only recently completed at a cost which is said to be about \$1,000,000 and had been in operation only a few days.

There is no clue to the miscreants and General Superintendent H. O. Dunkle of this division of the Erie says that bloodhounds will be used in trying to run them down.

### CHICAGO UNIVERSITY WINS.

Chicago, March 25.—The University of Chicago carried off first honors in the first annual western inter-collegiate indoor track meet tonight, gaining a total of 36 points. University of Illinois was second, with 33 points, and Minnesota third with 14 points. Purdue and Wisconsin tied for fourth place, with ten points, and the Northwestern University finished last on its own track, with but four points.

## NEW CABINET FOR MEXICO

DE LA BARRA IS NAMED TO SUCCEED CREEL, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Other Members Selected, But Not Yet Appointed—Gen. Reyes May be Recalled From France for Cabinet Position.

Mexico City, March 25.—Francisco Leon De La Barra, the Mexican ambassador to the United States, will be the successor of Enrique C. Creel, minister of foreign affairs in the new Diaz cabinet. This is the only member of the new cabinet publicly known tonight and his appointment has not been announced officially.

It is conceded that Jose y Ives Limantour will remain as minister of finance. Four other members have been chosen, but the official announcement of none will be made until Monday.

Those selected are: Demetrio Sodi, judge of the Supreme Court, minister of justice, succeeding Justino Fernandez; Norberto Dimanguez, postmaster general, department of communications, succeeding Senor Leandro Fernandez; Manuel Marroqui, well known civil engineer, department of fomento, succeeding Olegario Molina and Jorge Vera Estanol, an attorney minister of education, succeeding Justo Sierra.

So far as official announcement of the personnel of the new cabinet is concerned, Mexico City is as ignorant tonight as it was yesterday. Until late this afternoon officials at the state department expected to be able to give out the names of the men appointed, but at 7:30 tonight it was stated that the administration would make no announcement whatever before next week.

It is barely possible that at that time changes may be made in the list of those now selected.

For the departments of war and interior no hint has been given as to their incumbents.

General Bernardo Reyes, now in Italy, who by many was believed to be slated for the post of secretary of war and marine, is returning to Mexico, but not to serve in that capacity. According to a high authority he will return to serve in the army. The general some time ago offered his services to his country and tonight it was stated that his offer had been accepted. To just what service he will be appointed is not known, but it is assumed that he will take an active part—possibly the command before in the campaign against the rebels in the north. With the exception of General Diaz himself there is no man in Mexico whom the Mexican people credit with greater military genius than General Reyes, and it is believed the mere knowledge of the fact that he is to be sent into the field will do much to break the spirit of the revolution.

With the changes in the cabinet reforms will be enacted, it is currently reported, which will include changes in the electoral system, effective suffrage in the election of state governors, and a reformation of the powers of the jefes politicos. It is said a full program of these reforms will be given in the president's message on next Saturday at the opening of congress.

That the administration's policy of reforms now has an excellent chance of being carried out successfully, is currently believed and it is as widely believed that there will be no alteration in its attitude towards the rebels so far as the war is concerned; that the fighting begun by Madero and his followers will cease only when the initiative is taken by the rebels.

The action already taken by the administration and the reforms proposed are said not to be intended as concessions to the insurgents.

"I hope and earnestly trust that the present difficulties will soon be solved in the best interests of the country and to the satisfaction of all reasonable and patriotic citizens," said Jose y Ives Limantour today. Mr. Limantour insisted that he be quoted as a private citizen, saying that pending action upon the cabinet resignations he could not properly speak otherwise.

"I feel that I can say that the administration of President Diaz is

prepared to take such measures and implant such reforms as will satisfy the best public opinion of the country, and that while meeting force with force, it will leave nothing undone in the present circumstances to unite all good Mexicans. A united Mexico is our watchword.

"I ask all patriotic and progressive Mexicans to be patient and while the government is working at the problems before it, that they practically display the love of the fatherland, which has been, and must be the basic principle of Mexico's proud position in the world. The putting aside of all personal resentments is imperatively demanded and a common cause to overcome a national difficulty is a necessity. If the citizens and friends will continue to prove their devotion to the glorious past and promising future of this nation, in a brief time all the complexities can readily be overcome.

"The Mexican people and the government's friendly to us must believe, and I say this in all solemnity of verity, that the government is determined to properly and progressively satisfy all legitimate demands for reformative measures and that it is doing this in its line of duty as a representative government, honestly, sincerely and fearlessly."

Of the men leaving the cabinet, none is better known to Americans than Enrique C. Creel, the retiring minister of foreign affairs, both on account of his having filled the post of ambassador to Washington and because of his dealings with Americans in the state of Chihuahua while serving as its governor. To this Mr. Creel said that he was leaving the cabinet with the utmost good will towards General Diaz and his erstwhile confederates and that in the future he would serve his country with all the strength of his patriotism whether in an official or a private capacity.

### Revolutionists Arrested.

Del Rio, Tex., March 25.—Charged with setting on foot a military expedition against Mexico 23 revolutionists, two of them Americans, arrested last night in Sanderson, were placed in the Del Rio jail this evening in default of \$1,000 bond fixed by United States Commissioner Garner. The leader of the expedition, L. A. Guajardo, was immediately released on bail. He is a man of intelligence and was formerly jefe politico at Mequez, served in the federal congress and the Chihuahua legislature. Officers who made the arrest say Guajardo is to be general of the revolutionary forces of Coahuila.

Twenty-five thousand rounds of ammunition, 56 guns, 12 horses and \$300 worth of provisions were captured with the men.

The courtroom was crowded all the afternoon during the trial of the alleged revolutionists and there is considerable excitement as sympathy is intensely in favor of the revolutionists.

An attack on Las Vaces, opposite here, is expected tomorrow.

### Were Not Executed.

Washington, March 25.—The report that John Hamilton Dignowitty and three other Americans had been executed is untrue. American Consul Edwards at Juarez, who has been instructed by the state department to investigate the report, telegraphed this information today.

### De La Barra Promoted.

Washington, D. C., March 25.—Francisco De La Barra, Mexican ambassador to the United States, was today named minister of foreign affairs of the Mexican cabinet by President Diaz. Senor De La Barra has telegraphed his acceptance of the portfolio to Mexico City.

### GUILTY OF MURDER.

San Antonio, Tex., March 25.—C. C. Bethea, charged with the killing of J. H. Head, at Rockdale January 6 last, was this afternoon, in the thirty-seventh district court, found guilty of murder in the second degree and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

The jury had been since yesterday afternoon considering the case and it was thought to have disagreed.

### ON SCOUTING EXPEDITION.

Little Rock, Ark., March 25.—Acting upon orders from the adjutant-general of the United States army, Maj. E. C. Ewing, commanding the local recruiting office, left for Fort Smith on a scouting expedition for recruits. He will examine a number of applicants at Fort Smith auxiliary on the trip.

## SEVEN DEAD EIGHT HURT

PULLMANS ON ATLANTIC COAST LINE PLUNGED INTO ALABAMA RIVER.

Seven Passengers Killed and Eight Seriously Injured—Engine Passes Safely Over—Bodies Taken to Tifton, Ga.

Tifton, Ga., March 25.—In one of the worst railroad disasters ever known in the South Atlantic states, eight persons were killed and more than a dozen injured when train No. 95, known as the Dixie Flyer on the Atlantic Coast Line and running between Chicago and Jacksonville, Fla., went through a trestle over the Alabama River, 18 miles east of here early this morning.

Tonight but one body, that of John T. Watson, of Landa, Wyo., remained in the cars in the river. Had it not been for the wreck, Watson would have been a bridegroom today. His sweetheart, Miss Elsie Shipley, of Pasadena, Cal., who was on the train with him and to whom he was to have been married in Jacksonville tomorrow, remained at the wreck through the day and night, watching the efforts of the rescuers to recover Watson's body.

The revised list of the dead and injured follows:

O. F. Bonwart, Henderson, Ky.  
W. W. Culpepper, Tifton, Ga.  
Mrs. W. D. Fletcher, Rowland, Ill.  
John T. Watson, Landa, Wyo.  
J. P. Woodward, express messenger, Waycross, Ga.  
C. J. Parnell, conductor, Savannah, Ga.

Lucius Ellis, fireman, and Albert Simmons, porter, both colored, at Waycross, Ga.  
Injured:  
J. E. Powell, baggagemaster, Jacksonville, Fla.  
J. P. Klein, wife and child, St. Louis, Mo.  
Father and mother bruised and child scalded.

Peter Gerlofs, Holland, Mich., bruised.  
Nick Vandermelon, Grand Rapids, Mich., bruised about head and knees.  
Mrs. O. F. Bonwart, Henderson, Ky.

W. T. Perkins, Cattletsburg, Ky., bruised.  
J. E. Greene, Waycross, Ga., bruised.

Late tonight it was stated that the wreck had been thoroughly examined and the death total will not be increased as all passengers had been accounted for.

The wounded have been removed to the Atlantic Coast Line Hospital at Waycross. The bodies of the dead were removed to Tifton.

The cars plunged into the river without a moment's warning to the sleeping passengers when an axle on the engine suddenly snapped when midway of the trestle.

The locomotive never left the track. The trestle is about a half mile long. But the river was low and at the point of the accident was not more than fifty yards across.

The express and baggage cars, two day coaches and one Pullman were piled in an indescribable mass in the center of the stream.

### JAPAN PEACEFUL.

Emperor Exchanges Notes With President Taft on War Rumors.

Washington, March 25.—President Taft was deeply gratified today to receive from the emperor of Japan a message warmly reciprocating the president's expressions of good will and friendship toward Japan made to the Japan ambassador, Baron Uchida, several days ago. Baron Uchida called at the White House this afternoon and delivered the emperor's message.

President Taft has been extremely anxious to set at rest the various reports of differences between this country and Japan, especially with reference to the mobilization of the troops in Texas. He declared the other day that he was at a loss to understand the motive behind such "malicious and baseless stories." He sent for Baron Uchida to express this sentiment to him and to ask that he convey the message to the emperor.